

MCSE report 2019

Teaching and Learning

The MCSE cluster is made up of 14 permanent academic staff members and one Talent Equity Scholar assigned to us. Dr Sury Rajah joined us in November, bringing with her, immense expertise in Foundation and Intermediate Phase mathematics and knowledge of the use of software packages for the teaching and learning for online scenarios. The mathematics and computer staff are a group of diligent, innovative and skilled academics who are constantly seeking to improve themselves and their students.

Our staff attend numerous international and local conferences on teaching and learning.

We have provided some supported to teachers through a cooperative arrangement with MIET. Mr Reginald Govender and Prof Vimolan Mudaly assisted with these teachers that were selected from the Umlazi and KwaMashu areas.

The Cluster also provided support for PhD and MEd students through a number of cohort sessions. These were facilitated by Prof Vimolan Mudaly.

The cluster is grateful for the assistance of our senior students who take on the task of tutoring junior students. It is this contribution made by these tutors, that make such a difference to the results of our students.



Dr Zanele Ndlovu at the Swan Delta Conference in Australia.

Research and Scholarship

Dr Ben Shongwe graduated with his PhD in 2019 and we have three other staff who are continuing with their PhD's. Mr M. Zulu is also completing is MEd and will hand in within a few months. All the members of the cluster are engaged in

research. Many others have been busy presenting papers at conferences, submitting or publishing papers.

Our staff attended 8 international and 11 local conferences. This is significant because it provides the team with the opportunity to share the research that is currently being conducted.

We have also graduated 6 PhD and 7 Masters students in 2019, and we have had a number that have been confirmed for graduation in 2020.

The Cluster had a record number of publications for 2019. Seventeen papers were published in SAPSE accredited journals, both nationally and internationally. This is a great improvement on our previous publication records.

Collaboration

Our team had numerous collaborative engagements with institutions both nationally and internationally. Different staff have engaged with the University of Western Cape, University of Dar es Salaam, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Wellington Institute of Technology, Midlands State University, University of Johannesburg, University of Stockholm and Universidade da Coruña

Community Engagement

Our staff have also been busy with engagements with different entities. Prof Naidoo is involved in the Board of The International Society for Academic Researchers (ISfAR), Advisory board of The International Education Conference, and Capacity Building Representative for AMESA on the South African committee of the International Mathematics Union (SANCIMU). Prof Govender has been involved in a professional development programme that is run by the computer discipline for Information Technology teachers from the Umlazi and Pinetown districts. Prof Mudaly, has been working with MiET to provide support to mathematics teachers. Mr R Govender has also assisted in this programme. Ms Goba is still the president of AMESA and was also a representative for AMESA at ICMI. Ms Goba and Prof Mudaly were also involved in the International Mathematics Competition.

The highlight of the year was the hosting of the AMESA conference at the Edgewood Campus. We had the highest number of delegates ever recorded and earned the highest profits for an AMESA conference. Prof Mudaly was the

LOC Chair. Prof Mudaly also assisted with the EASA conference held at the Elangeni Hotel.



The AMESA conference

Dr Ben Shongwe and Mr Justin Molebale are involved in a collaboration with the University of the Free State. See some pictures of Grade 3 Mathematics teachers participating in the UFS/UKZN Family Math project in 2019.



The UFS/UKZN Family Math Project

Awards

Many cluster members received awards at the School Award Day and the College of Humanities Awards Day. These were:

Dr Zanele Ndlovu: Received the Fulbright award for 2020 and was promoted to Senior Lecturer

Prof Jayaluxmi Naidoo: Received her NRF C3 Rating, promoted to Associate Professor and received the School of Education: Excellence in Project Output

Prof Desmond Govender: College Award – Research Output – PUs

Prof Sarah Bansilal: Top 30 researchers in COH; Top 10 published women in COH